

Happy New Year

75¢



THE

Banner

PERIODICALS
NEWSPAPER

"Learn what is true in order to do what is right." - Thomas Huxley

Vol. XVII, Issue 37

December 30, 2015

Knightstown, IN

Historic K-town Invites Visitors

The Historic Knightstown museum, located on the Public Square at 22 N. Washington St., has new winter hours. The museum's winter hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. each Friday and Saturday, or by appointment. The museum regularly hosts programs. For more information, or to schedule a museum visit by appointment, call David Steele at 765-345-7585. Family and individual HKI memberships are \$20 and \$15, respectively. Membership payments may be mailed to HKI at P.O. Box 74, Knightstown, IN 46148.

Octagon House Tours Available

The Shirley Octagon House is open for free tours by chance or appointment. To get a free tour, stop by Shirley Hardware and one will be arranged. To schedule an appointment for a tour, call 812-583-0031 or 765-737-6856.

Local Church Has Welcome Packets

Knightstown Wesleyan Church has welcome packets available. Anyone new to the area interested in receiving local business information and discounts may contact Kathie Rummell at 765-345-9660 or Amy Bell at 765-686-7063.

Carthage Library Book Sale Ongoing

The Henry Henley Public Library, 102 N. Main St., Carthage, is hosting a used book sale. Everything that can fit in a grocery bag is just \$1. It's the library's "Bag for a Buck" sale and it runs through Dec. 31. The library's hours are Tuesday 2-7 p.m., Thursday 4-7 p.m., and Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Gleaner's Food Bank Visiting Jan. 16

The Gleaner's Food Bank food truck will visit Blue River Community Harvest on the following dates this year and in 2016. The truck will adhere to an each-third-Saturday schedule, arriving on Saturday, Jan. 16, March 19, May 21, July 16 and Sept. 17.

Knightstown Town Council Delays Police Pay Increases

by Jeff Eakins
for The Banner

The Knightstown Town Council has delayed approving pay increases for the Knightstown Police Department.

Clerk-Treasurer Bart Whitesitt presented Knightstown Town Council members with a proposed salary ordinance at their Dec. 17 monthly meeting that would have given 3-percent raises to KPD employees, starting in January.

While he did not specify exactly when officers and other KPD employees had last seen raises, Whitesitt told the council it had been "quite a few years." Town employees in other departments and town officials, who saw their pay go up in varying amounts earlier this year, would have seen no change in their pay.

Council member Clyde South made a motion to approve the new salary ordinance on first reading, and Vice President Sarah Ward seconded the motion. With the support of President Cort Swincher and members Mitch Roland and Valerie Trump, it passed unanimously.

Before proceeding to suspend its normal rules of procedure and move on to a second, final vote of adoption on the salary ordinance, Trump suggested the council consider waiting until after the first of the year. That, she said, would give the council time to review the 2016 budget order it will receive from the state in a month or so, and to consider whether the town might be able to afford more than a 3-percent pay hike for the KPD.

Trump then made a motion to amend the proposed salary ordinance to keep all pay levels where they are now. Roland seconded the motion and it, too, passed 5-0.

See Delay, Page 3

Mays Christmas



Mays Community Academy students put on their first Christmas program on Wednesday, Dec. 16. The new charter school enjoyed a packed gymnasium for the musical event, which featured performances from students and teachers, alike. More photos appear on Pages 8-9. (Eric Cox photo)

Biggest Stories of 2015 Recapped

As Banner readers know, there was no shortage of big local news in 2015. In no particular order, here are 10 stories that made headlines in our pages this past year.

Local Elections Give Knightstown New Officials in 2016

November's municipal elections offered voters two contested races in Knightstown, and 2016 will see three new officials taking positions in town government.

With only about 23 percent of registered voters going to the polls, the local race that drew the greatest attention in Knightstown was the one for the Ward 1 seat on the Knightstown Council. GOP candidate Roger Hammer received 154 votes, 30 more than his

opponent, Democrat Kevin Richey, and when he takes office in January, Hammer will replace two-term incumbent Clyde South, who chose not to seek reelection.

In the town's only other contested race, that for Knightstown Clerk-Treasurer, Republican Beth Huffman defeated Democrat Ashley Lapham 207 to 68. Bart Whitesitt, the Republican incumbent, did not run for reelection.

Two other Knightstown Town Council candidates, Republican newcomer Kevin Knott and Democrat incumbent Mitch Roland, did not face challengers in their respective bids for the council's Ward 3 and Ward 4 council seats. Knott, who received 228 votes, will be
See Recap, Page 10

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The Banner Welcomes Letters to the Editor

Do you have an opinion? If you do, then write us a Letter to the Editor. *The Banner* welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters must be signed by the author and contain a phone number for verification purposes. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. For more information or to submit a Letter to the Editor, call *The Banner* at 765-345-2292.

OBITUARIES

Evelyn M. Hirsch
February 13, 1917 - December 25, 2015



Evelyn M. Hirsch, age 98, of Greenfield passed away Dec. 25, 2015, at Hancock Regional Hospital in Greenfield. She was born Feb. 13, 1917, in Hancock County, the daughter of the late Arthur and Cressa (Brooks) Miller. Evelyn graduated from Charlottesville High School in 1934, Indiana Central College in 1943, and continuing education classes at Ball State and Butler universities. She worked part-time at Danner's 5 & 10 store in Greenfield. She taught elementary school at Shirley (Hancock Co.) for four years; Brookston for two years; New Castle for five years, Fort Wayne for 10 years; Greenfield for one semester; and Charlottesville for 11 years. Evelyn retired in 1977. She also taught the homebound and did substitute teaching at Kennard, Knightstown and Eastern Hancock elementary schools. Evelyn was active in 4-H, with state canning awards. She enjoyed cooking, canning, baking, crafts, traveling, family and church activities. Evelyn sang in the youth women's chorus, served as church organist and was a former member of Charlottesville Christian Church. She was also a member of Shirley Christian Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Janet (Gary) Sickle of Greenfield and Karen Hirsch of Indianapolis; two grandchildren, Bethany and Zachary Sickle of Greenfield; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arnold E. Hirsch in 2010; and three sisters, Dorothea Mae Sims, Mary Marie Toddler and Betty Lou Miller. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec. 31, at 1:30 p.m. at Condo and Son Funeral Home in Wilkinson with Gary Sickle officiating. Burial will follow at Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown. Friends may call at the funeral home from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., prior to the service. Memorial donations can be made to the Central Mexico Christian Mission, in care of Holly Labisky, Box 3336, Champaign, IL. 61826 or North East India Christian Mission, in care of Tom Adams, P.O. Box 131, Shelbyville, IN 46176. Online condolences can be made at www.condoandson.com

Douglas W. Wilson
May 26, 1933 - December 22, 2015



Douglas W. Wilson, 82, of Knightstown passed away Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015, at his residence. He was born May 26, 1933, in Michigan, the son of Roy and Wilma (Koon) Wilson. A proud Purdue graduate, Doug was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1955-57. He retired from Ameriana Bank, where he worked as vice president and loan officer at many Henry County branches. He was a member of Rural Youth in Henry County and Kennard Christian Church, where he served as an elder. He loved spending time with family and friends. He enjoyed Purdue Boilermakers basketball and Cincinnati Reds baseball.

He is survived by two daughters, Julie Kay Wilson of Selma and Jill Suzanne Wilson of Shelbyville; three brothers, Robert (Lou) Wilson of Montgomery, George (Barbara) Wilson of Bakersfield, Cal., and Larry (Karen) Wilson of Montgomery; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Eula Kay Wilson on Oct. 13. Friends called Dec. 27 at Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Knightstown Chapel. Funeral service will be at 3:00 PM. Military rites will be conducted by the Knightstown American Legion Post #152. Burial will follow in Glen Cove Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Parkinson's Research, 4755 Kingsway Drive, Suite #333, Indianapolis, IN 46205-1560. Condolences and Memories of Doug may be shared at www.hinsey-brown.com.

Claris "Marie" Brockman
September 25, 1925 - December 20, 2015

Claris "Marie" Brockman, 90, passed away Dec. 20, 2015, in Greenfield. She was born to the late Lonzo and Pearl (Williams) Brockman on Sept. 25, 1925, in Columbia, Ky. Marie married Clarence "C.B." Brockman on Sept. 25, 1946. Marie loved her family very much. She enjoyed being a homemaker. She was known for her outstanding cooking. Marie will be greatly missed by her two children, Jerry (Debbie) Brockman and Janis Spence, both of Carthage; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband and parents, Marie was preceded in death by her son-in-law, James Spence, Sr.; five brothers; and two sisters. Services for Marie were Dec. 23 at Heritage Funeral Care in Knightstown. Friends called the same day as the funeral service. Burial took place in Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown.

Betty Fay Means
October 23, 1936 - December 16, 2015

Betty Fay Means, 79, of Knightstown, passed away Dec. 16, 2015, at Hancock Regional Hospital in Greenfield. She was born Oct. 23, 1936, in Indiana. She was a home health care provider. Survivors include her friends, Sally (Dick Marsh) Hamilton of Carthage and Terri Matlock of Knightstown. She was preceded in death by her husband, Delton Means. There will be no services. Arrangements have been entrusted to Condo and Son Funeral Home in Wilkinson.

*To the families we were privileged to serve in 2015,
and to everyone who offered support
and encouragement, we say thank you.
We appreciate your trust and confidence.
Best wishes for 2016*

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OBITUARIES

John Stephen Dickey
 May 8, 1945 - December 14, 2015

There is a new angel in the ornery section of heaven today. John Stephen Dickey, 70, of Hagerstown, Md., passed away on Dec. 14, while surrounded by his family. John and his twin sister were born on VE day (May 8), 1945, in Indianapolis. They were raised in Knightstown by their mother, Helen (Lord) Dickey and adoptive father, Dr. John Dickey.

John received a bachelor's of science degree in engineering from Purdue University, where he was a member of the band and a participant in the Rose Bowl parade. He also received a master's of business administration degree from Butler University, where he met his spouse of 42 years, Calista (Dilley) Dickey. They moved to Maryland, where John worked as a metallurgist for Mack Truck for over 40 years.

John had a passion for many causes and used his natural appearance to help underprivileged children by volunteering to play Santa Claus for the Boys & Girls Club and the Kiwanis Club. John also regularly volunteered at the REACH cold weather shelter. He was very involved with his church, the Presbyterian Church of Hagerstown, where he served as deacon and elder, and taught Sunday school. John made the communion bread for his church and was involved in the soup kitchen ministry of the church whenever possible.

An avid golfer, John loved to play with his son and the Mack Truck Golf League. He was also an accomplished baker, who had a grateful list of friends who received his bread at Christmas. John loved woodworking and home-based projects. He was a quiet, easy-going guy, who was also thoughtful and kind. When he was your friend, there was no doubt that he was your friend. John absolutely adored his children and grandchildren. He had a deep, abiding faith in God and tried to live in acceptance of all people, regardless of their race, culture or differences in faith. We are all shaken by his loss.

John is survived by his father, Dr. John Dickey; his twin sister, Jane Pidgeon; his wife, Calista Dickey; his daughter, Sara Dickey; a son, Matthew Dickey; a daughter-in-law, Emily Spencer; and two grandchildren, Ellie and Samuel Dickey.

A memorial service was held in his honor on Saturday, Dec. 19, at the Presbyterian Church of Hagerstown. The family would appreciate that donations in his memory be given to Hospice of Washington County for the construction of Doey's House or the Soup Kitchen at the Presbyterian Church of Hagerstown.

Delay, from Page 1

Because it needed to be retyped to make this change, Gregg Morelock, the town's attorney, suggested the council not vote on the second reading of the ordinance until its Dec. 29 year-end meeting.

Knightstown resident Kevin Knott, who will be taking the council's Ward 3 seat at the start of the year, thanked Trump for suggesting that the vote on raises be delayed until the council has a chance to review the 2016 budget order.

As is its usual practice, council members voted to pay the monthly claims without first relating any figures - for example, totals paid out of each fund or department - to the public in attendance. Following the council's vote, Knott asked for the total, which Whitesitt said was \$535,172.55.

Knott also asked Whitesitt if he could provide a balance for the town's available funds. Whitesitt said the current balance wouldn't be available until January, but that he had a report that showed in percentages how much each town fund had left to spend from its approved appropriations for 2015.

Whitesitt said available appropriations were: 6.88 percent in the town's General Fund; Motor Vehicle Highway had 6.87 percent;

Local Roads and Streets had 1.68 percent; the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board had 24.7 percent; Law Enforcement Continuing Education had 93.37 percent; and Law Enforcement Aid had 9.11 percent.

Knott asked Whitesitt if he was concerned that expenditures might end up exceeding approved 2015 appropriations.

"There's a concern, yes," Whitesitt said. "Always."



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Graham Richardson Joins C.A. Beard School Board

As had been expected, the Charles A. Beard School Board voted at its Dec. 15 monthly meeting to appoint Ripley Township resident Graham Richardson as the board's newest member.

When the board met that night to interview applicants for the seat board member vacated in November, Richardson was the only one vying for the position. While one other person had previously applied, he had not lived in

the district for a year, as required by state law, prompting the board to extend its original application deadline.

Richardson, 69, grew up in Greenfield and is a 1964 graduate of Greenfield Central. He has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Purdue University, served four years in the U.S. Navy and worked 27 years as an intelligence analyst in Washington, D.C.

See Board, Page 5

K-TOWN LEGION POST 152

NEW YEAR'S EVE - THURSDAY, DEC. 31

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Banner PERSPECTIVES

'Home' Takes on New Meaning Now

*"Christmas Eve will find me
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I'll be home for Christmas
You can count on me
I'll be home for Christmas
If only in my dreams"*

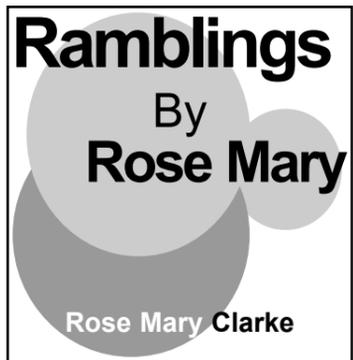
This poignant song was recorded in 1943 the incomparable Bing Crosby.

Ever since I was a child, I have loved Christmas and, fortunately, Bill does, too. Christmas cards, the most beautiful tree we can find hung with treasured ornaments, beloved carols, giving and receiving gifts, a church service, delectable food and drink, and parties combine to make our "Clarke Christmas" a many-splendored event. Bah-humbuggers should not attempt it as it requires a huge amount of effort that is our gift to each other.

It gives me joy and a feeling of connection when we unpack the boxes stored in the Christmas closet. We start with Christmas knick-knacks and crafts, many of which were made and given to us by Vicki, friends or relatives. Every item evokes a memory. On the mantle there's a charming snowman crafted by a Brown County artist. The artist made him a little dingy and disheveled, as if he is nearing the end of his time. He has a pipe in his mouth and holds a wreath and a bell. Friend Michelle tipped Bill off that I had fallen in love with him, and Bill drove back to Nashville the next day and bought him as an anniversary gift. There's another

snowman that Ann gave us.

Many years ago, Bill's darling mother and I caught the bus downtown and had lunch at Ayres Tea Room. We each bought a pair of salt and pepper shakers representing Santa and Mrs. Claus in their rocking chairs. They are there, along with statuettes of French Christmas figures given to us by Bill and Jean. After arranging the mantle, I set out



on the organ the manger scene that my parents gave me for Christmas when I was 12 years old.

And then I had to quit. I had been ill for several weeks and was too sick to hang our collection of cherished ornaments on what I believe is the most beautiful tall and perfectly shaped tree that Bill has found. Bill did it.

I became sicker and sicker, and my family doctor recommended a gastroenterologist. The earliest appointment that I could get was Jan. 5. Bill suggested that I pack a few things and go to the emergency room. Fortunately, I listened to him.

Would you believe that, miraculously, three gastroenterologists showed up after I was admitted? I spent 10 days in the hospital. I had "C Diff", a particularly nasty and highly infectious type of colitis that results from too many antibiotics. Bill, Vicki and all of the hospital personnel had to wear gowns and gloves and scrub their hands with soap and water to avoid contamination.

I have never been so ill. I felt adrift being away from my husband of 52 years, who has become a part of my very being. My mind was shutting down: I was too sick to read, watch TV or write. Other than Christmas day, writing every day keeps me grounded. I lost part of my sense of self when I was unable to write.

I'd take my mind off my misery by singing Christmas carols. I sobbed when I sang "I'll be home for Christmas" because I was afraid I wouldn't be home for Christmas, if at all.

I was very fortunate that I had superb nursing care and a doctor of internal medicine who knew how to treat me. I arrived home on Tuesday and spent Wednesday gazing at our glorious tree and listening to carols. As it should be when we grow old, there was a changing of the guard. With Bill's help, Vicki took over the baking and the Christmas feast.

Over and over, I count my blessings, and the word "home" has taken on a new depth of meaning for me. wclarke@comcast.net

Winter Grass Mowing New Normal?

I took a long bike ride the other day - in the sunshine, amid warm temperatures.

It was Dec. 20, five days before Christmas.

Weird.

I didn't complain, though. Normally it's too cold for me to ride this time of year. I don't mind piling on the base layers. Staying warm on a long winter bike ride is a real trick. But, it's kind of a pain. Warm weather makes it much easier to keep riding.

Nevertheless, there I was about 20 miles into what would eventually become a 32-miler. Riding this time of year is not all that remarkable. What I smelled on that ride was.

Now, to me, one of the best smells ever is the fresh scent of newly mown grass. Nothing heralds summer's arrival like the aroma of a shorn lawn, the smell so heavy you can almost taste that emerald chlorophyll.

That's why it surprised me so much, in mid-December, to have this odor in my nostrils. Had someone unbagged some grass clippings leftover from summer? Were my olfactory senses going haywire?

No, in fact, someone had just mowed their lawn. On Dec. 20. Five days before Christmas.

As it turns out, I already had this thought in my mind. Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service owner Kevin Brown had posted something on Facebook about having recently smelled fresh-cut grass. I thought it must be a curious experience to have such a summer experience at the onset of winter.

Because, really, how strange would it be to get some measurable snowfall in July? I think it would be extremely flippin' weird for all the trees to shed their leaves in May.

Many will, of course, argue about the cause of these seasonal wonders, these natural anomalies that really aren't so anomalous anymore. Is it climate change? Is the earth going through its natural warming and cooling cycles?

No matter the reason, it doesn't affect how patently odd these experiences continue to be, at least for me.

It seems we are no longer sensationalized by swift, raging forest fires. Once relatively uncommon, forest fires now get just a brief mention on the news, along with the omnipresent video clips of towering flames and blowing, burning embers.

Flooding and mudslides are now about as exciting to us as these protracted droughts and Thanksgiving tornado outbreaks. Winter heatwaves, crazy cloud patterns and snow storms with thunder and lightning - they all seem at risk of becoming the new normal.

What does it all mean? To be certain, I don't know. However, it's clear that something radical is going on with our weather. Whether it's caused by human activity or not, I, likewise, do not know.

And, while I'm not excited about the possibility of winter tornados, I do welcome that smell. Yes, the warm smell of cut grass always has a place in my nose.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

"Happy New Year!" That seems to be the popular greeting for the next couple of weeks. It replaces "Merry Christmas!" or "Happy Holidays!", which replaced "Happy Thanksgiving!" a month or so before. After the New Year's euphoria is over, we'll probably go back to the more generic "hello" and "how's it going?" until Thanksgiving rolls around again. I don't know why "Happy Valentine's Day!" never really caught on outside of our most intimate friends, and I don't recall anyone ever wishing me a "Happy Memorial Day!" or a "Happy Arbor Day!" I wonder if it's because we have so many holidays, or maybe it's because a simple "hello" doesn't seem to require the obligatory smile the seasonal greetings do.

One of the many greetings I've heard in these parts for most of my life is "Are you staying out of trouble?" I suppose, like most people, my answer to that particular question has changed over the years. In my younger days the answer most of the time would have been "no." As I grew a little older the answer changed to "I'm trying", and eventually ended up as a "yes", partially, I think, because I just don't have the energy to get into trouble anymore.

I've also made a few adjustments in my lifestyle over the last 63 years, many times in the form of New Year's resolutions, hoping to avoid different types of trouble. I gave up cigarettes and alcohol about 30 years ago. I replaced the cigarettes with chewing tobacco, and the alcohol with Mountain Dew, for a while, but eventually decided I could probably get by just fine without either of those vices as well. I read somewhere that if people who smoked and drank would add up all the money they spent on beer and cigarettes, it would be enough to buy a Mercedes-Benz. When I started they both cost 45 cents, so I probably would have to settle for a pre-owned model.

I don't drive faster than the speed limit for the most part, and I try to obey most of the stop signs that I see. I got rid of our 40-foot extension ladder a few years ago, and last fall I decided our second story gutters on the house probably didn't absolutely need to be cleaned out just because the first story gutters were full.

I don't watch much television anymore, not necessarily because I made a conscious effort to stop watching, but more because it kept getting harder to find anything worth watching. Sometimes I still listen to it, but that's not usually my choice or fault.

I decided to lose 30 pounds a few months back. I lost 20, but found four of them again after too many "Happy Holidays!" I think it will be easier to lose them again now that I don't have to smile as much.

Last year my wife made a New Year's resolution for me that I would see a doctor at least once a year. She also made an appointment with a doctor for me, and before it was all over I ended up seeing two doctors three times, and taking some pills almost every morning that are supposed to keep my heart beat up and my blood pressure down. I always thought one would just take care of the other, but everybody involved told me I wasn't a doctor, and that I should just shut up and take my medicine, which I mostly do.

I haven't yet decided what I'm going to give up or take up this year. There's a distinct possibility I've reached the age where I just don't have that much to give up. And I guess I'm just a little disappointed that with everything I've already given up, I don't feel any better or have more money than I do. Or that I'm not driving a Mercedes.

At any rate, whatever New Year's resolution you decide to undertake, I hope it all works out for you, and that you end feeling better or saving money, or both.

And good luck with your Mercedes.

Rex Bell, Hagerstown

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Hubert H. Humphrey

BITS & PIECES

◆The Henry Henley Public Library, 102 N. Main St., Carthage, is hosting a **used book sale**. Everything that can fit in a grocery bag is just \$1. It's the library's "Bag for a Buck" sale and it runs through Dec. 31. The library's hours are Tuesday 2-7 p.m., Thursday 4-7 p.m., and Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

◆The **Charles A. Beard School Board** has scheduled a special meeting for next Tuesday to attend to annual board organization duties. The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. in the media center at Knightstown High School, 8149 W. U.S. Hwy. 40, the board's normal meeting location. Board members are expected to choose a president, vice president and secretary, and appoint a corporation treasurer and legal counsel. Other issues typically addressed include setting the pay level for board members, and approval of the date, time and location for regular board meetings.

◆**Beautify Knightstown** is taking mail or pick-up orders for acad-

emy T-shirts to support the upcoming wall mural project. Shirts are available in sizes up to 5X, starting at \$20. Orders and questions may be e-mailed to km_richey@yahoo.com or by calling 765-445-2328.

◆The Gleaner's Food Bank **food truck** will visit Blue River Community Harvest on the following dates this year and in 2016. The truck will adhere to an each-third-Saturday schedule, arriving on Saturday, Jan. 16, March 19, May 21, July 16 and Sept. 17.

◆Knightstown Wesleyan Church has **welcome packets** available. Anyone new to the area interested in receiving local business information and discounts may contact Kathie Rummell at 765-345-9660 or Amy Bell at 765-686-7063.

◆The Shirley Octagon House is open for **free tours** by chance or appointment. To get a free tour, stop by Shirley Hardware and one will be arranged. To schedule an appointment for a tour, call 812-

583-0031 or 765-737-6856.

◆The **Historic Knightstown museum**, located on the Public Square at 22 N. Washington St., has new winter hours. The museum's winter hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. each Friday and Saturday, or by appointment. For more information, or to schedule a museum visit by appointment, call David Steele

at 765-345-7585. Family and individual HKI memberships are \$20 and \$15, respectively. Membership payments may be mailed to HKI at P.O. Box 74, Knightstown, IN 46148.

◆**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets weekly, on Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hoosier Gym (enter on East side). Meetings will continue

each Tuesday at the same time and location. For more info, call 765-571-1132 or 765-571-1662.

◆The **Parish Clothes Closet**, located in the basement of Bethel Presbyterian Church, 112 S. Franklin St., Knightstown, is open the first Thursday of the month 3-5 p.m. and the second Saturday of the month 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Libraries Offering State Park Passes

In 2016, Hoosiers can check out state parks by checking out an entrance pass from a public library.

The State Park Centennial Annual Pass Library Check-out Program is a partnership between Indiana State Parks and the Indiana State Library to encourage people to visit libraries and parks.

At libraries across Indiana, 240 state park passes have been placed in circulation for check-out. The passes will provide access to Indiana's 32 state parks and also to Indiana's state forest recreation areas where entrance fees are charged. Passes will be available for check-out from Jan. 1-Dec. 31.

The program is one way Indiana State Parks is celebrating its centennial anniversary. The Indiana State Parks system was a gift to the people of Indiana in 1916 in celebration of the state's centennial. Read more about activities that are part of the State Parks Centennial Celebration at INStateParks100.com.

"Our goal is to provide access to our great Indiana State Parks for those who may have never visited," said Ginger Murphy, deputy director of stewardship for Indiana State Parks. "We also hope that those who come in to check out the annual pass will take time to

See Libraries, Page 6

Richardson, from Page 3

A 10-year resident of Ripley Township, Richardson replaces Don Scheumann, who abruptly resigned near the end of the board's Nov. 17 monthly meeting. Elected in the fall of 2012, Scheumann, a former longtime CAB administrator, took office in 2013 and his four-year term was scheduled to run through the end of next year.

State statute gave the CAB School Board 30 days to select someone to finish out Scheumann's term. Had it failed to do that, the responsibility for filling the vacant seat would have shifted to the Henry Circuit Court.

"That's certainly not someplace we want to go," board member John Swartz said of the court, before making a motion to appoint Richardson. Suzee Neal seconded the motion, and with support from President Wade Beatty, Tom

Schaetzle, Steve Ferrell and Gerald Leonard, it passed 6-0.

Richardson was given the oath office by the board's attorney and immediately took his board seat and got to work, participating in that night's regular monthly.

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CAB, Rush County Schools Schedule Public Meetings

The Charles A. Beard School Board has scheduled a special meeting for next Tuesday to attend to annual board organization duties.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. in the media center at Knightstown High School, 8149 W. U.S. Hwy. 40, the board's normal meeting location.

Board members are expected to choose a president, vice president and secretary, and appoint a corporation treasurer and legal counsel. Other issues typically addressed include setting the pay level for board members, and approval of the date, time and location for regular board meetings.

Rush County Schools Meetings Tonight

The Rush County School Board will hold a special meeting this

evening to consider an appeal of a student's expulsion.

The special meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the RCS's administrative office, 330 W. Eighth St., Rushville. A closed-door executive session from which the public is excluded will be held at 6 p.m. so the board can receive information about alleged misconduct, either on the part of a student or employee, who was not identified in the meeting notice issued by RCS.

The executive session notice also indicates that board members intend to discuss an employee's job performance evaluation when meeting privately. The notice for the public meeting that follows indicates the board may act on some unspecified personnel matter that may, or may not, be related to the executive session.

Michael Wilson Cites Knightstown as Big Influence on His Career in Law, Fire Fighting

by Logan Cox
for The Banner

In August, former Knightstown resident Michael D. Wilson was appointed as the new fire chief of the Warsaw/Wayne Fire Territory by the Warsaw/Wayne Fire Territory Board and the mayor of the city of Warsaw. To accept this position, Wilson returned to the fire department following his retirement from the territory in 2011.

Wilson's career with this fire department began when he became a volunteer firefighter in September of 1980, and was promoted to working full-time in 1990. Six years later, he became the fire marshal overseeing investigations and inspections.

His desire to run for the position of Kosciusko County coroner prompted his 2011 retirement from Warsaw/Wayne Fire Territory. In December of that year, Wilson was made chief of Plain Township/Leesburg Fire Department, a position he held until December 2015.

"During the term of Plain Township fire chief, I assisted in the new direction of the department moving them forward with fire equipment, firefighter training, in preparation for lower ISO ratings," said Wilson.

He was elected to Kosciusko County coroner in fall of 2012, his term starting Jan. 1, 2013. Wilson oversaw death investigations within Kosciusko County, along with five certified medicolegal death investigators.

"In August 2015, I was appointed by the Warsaw/Wayne Fire Territory Board and mayor of the city of Warsaw as the new fire chief," he said. "So I came out of retirement to accept this position."

Upon graduating from high school in June 1975, Wilson joined the U.S. Army as a military police officer. He served at Fort Knox, Ky., as patrolman, K-9 officer, deputy game warden and dispatcher. He was in Germany for six months as a military policeman at a nuclear missile site.

Later, he returned to Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis as patrolman. He also worked with K-9 units, served as a patrol supervisor and a traffic accident investigator until February 1980. While still working at Fort Harrison, Wilson volunteered for the base fire department.

"When we returned to Warsaw, I joined the volunteers and also the Kosciusko County Fire Investigation Team, where my military police law

enforcement training on crime scenes was an aspect. This drew me to the career as a firefighter/fire officer," said Wilson.

His interest in serving his community was inspired by Phil Estridge, an old friend of his from Knightstown. Estridge is a retired Indiana State Trooper and former patrolman at the Knightstown Police Department.

"This young interest grew into wanting to first be involved in law enforcement," Wilson said. "However, I changed to the fire service. In my career, I have gained strength in management and moving departments to the next level of expertise."

During his service as fire marshal, Wilson was given the opportunity to supervise the accelerant detection canine for the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco (ATF) and Firearms in Indiana.

"After certification with ATF in Front Royal, Va., in December 2003, I was assigned my new K-9 partner "Bailey", a black Labrador, who served loyally

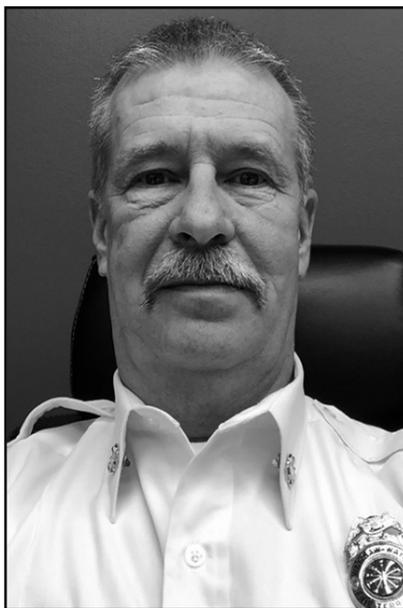
with me, involved in fire scene examinations throughout Indiana," he said. "This was a rewarding time during my firefighter career."

Though he was born in Rushville, Wilson's parents, Edward "Junior" Wilson and Louise Wilson, were graduates of Knightstown High School.

"We lived in Dorsey Court on U.S. 40, west of town - one of the first houses built there, until we moved in the 70's to Warsaw," Wilson recalled. "If we would not have moved to Warsaw, I would have graduated in 1975. My childhood classmates graduated in 1975."

Wilson notes that his sister graduated from Knightstown, though he was unable to. He also said that his mother's family, the Mattixes, are all from the Knightstown area, and that his father's family was originally involved with the opening of the Danner's stores in Knightstown and Cambridge City.

"My family was very into Knightstown during their years," said Wilson. "I have fond memories of many home basketball games in the old gym, helping my dad at the Knightstown Telephone Company, being out on the Linch Farm with cousins Judge, Betty and their family, Jeff and Karen. I have a lot of fond memories of my school years, returning to visit friends and family. Knightstown will always hold that special place in my heart, it's where my heritage started!"



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MEETINGS CALENDAR

- Sat., Jan. 2** – Wilkinson Town Council meeting, 9:30 a.m., Wilkinson Town Hall
- Mon., Jan. 4** – Shirley Town Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., Shirley Town Hall
- Mon., Jan. 4** – Greensboro Town Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., Greensboro Community Center
- Tues., Jan. 5** – Hancock Co. Commissioners meeting, 8 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield
- Tues., Jan. 5** – Spiceland Town Council, 6 p.m., Spiceland Town Hall, 130 E. Main St.
- Tues., Jan. 5** – Knightstown Vol. Fire Dept. meeting, 7 p.m., at fire station
- Tues., Jan. 5** – Henry Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 7 p.m., old circuit court room, 2nd floor of courthouse, New Castle
- Wed., Jan. 6** – Kennard Town Council meeting, 7 p.m., Kennard Town Hall
- Thurs., Jan. 7** – Henry Co. Technical Review Board meeting, 9 a.m., office building conference room, first floor, New Castle
- Thurs., Jan. 7** – Hancock Co. Planning Commission tech committee meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse annex room 101, Greenfield
- Thurs., Jan. 7** – Rush Co. Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 6:30 p.m., courthouse assembly room, Rushville
- Thurs., Jan. 7** – Knightstown Dept. of Parks & Recreation board meeting, 7 p.m., Sunset Park shelter house
- Mon., Jan. 11** – Rush Co. Commissioners meeting, 9 a.m., courthouse room 103, Rushville
- Mon., Jan. 11** – Carthage Town Council meeting, 6 p.m., Carthage Town Hall

Libraries, from Page 5—

explore the services and materials available in Indiana's libraries."

The Indiana State Library helped pay for the parks pass program. Some local libraries may purchase additional passes to ensure that each branch has one for check-out.

"The State Library is excited about its bicentennial partnership with Indiana State Parks," said State Librarian Jacob Speer. "The partnership gives library patrons an opportunity to explore the many beautiful state park locations across Indiana simply by using their library card to check-out the free passes."

Check-out duration for the passes may vary by site. Visit your local public library for details about check-out duration. To view all DNR news releases, please see dnr.IN.gov.

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FOLKWAYS

Knightstown Resident Waynetta Dunn Honored



Knightstown resident, Waynetta Dunn, was recognized as "Outstanding Democrat Woman of the Year" and received the 2015 Jean Sanders Award at the Jefferson/Jackson Democrat annual meeting and dinner recently.

The award is in honor of the late Jean Sanders, who was a tireless volunteer for the Henry County Democrat Party.

"Waynetta embodies the best of the Democrat Party," said Tara Baker-Carter, local chair of the Henry County Democrat Central

Committee. "She is held in esteem by both local political parties because of her work ethic, high standards and ability to get along with others and personifies the Democrat brand."

Dunn's service began when she was a child and helped her late father, Wayne Clark, work at the election precincts in Knightstown.

She has continued to work in elections every year since and also serves at the Henry County Justice Center when absentee voting begins.

In addition to working local elections, Dunn is also a volunteer for the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign.

God Wants Us to Overcome

by Rev. Gail Whitmire
Knightstown First Wesleyan Church



"Even my close friend, whom I trusted ... has lifted up his heel against me." (Psalm 41:9).

In the New Testament, this Old Testament passage was considered to have been a prophetic telling of what would happen to Christ when Judas betrayed Him.

Many people have experienced times of great hurt because of betrayal by someone in whom they placed their trust. Has anyone you considered a friend ever broken a pledge? Has a loved one ever bailed out on a promise to be there for you? Have you ever taken a prayer need to someone, only to be disappointed to find that it was not kept in confidence? Learning to trust again is sometimes a long, slow process for those who have felt

the sting of this kind of treatment.

David wrote this Psalm when he was going through a time of sickness. In fact, he was bedridden. When we lose our health, even for a short period of time, we sometimes feel helpless. Satan will often use these kinds of situations to try and convince us that not only have our friends deserted us, but God has abandoned us as well. What a lie from the mouth of the "father of lies" (John 8:44). God, himself, has promised that He will never forsake or abandon us!

And why would God make that kind of promise? Because He knows what it means to be forsaken. He understands the pain of betrayal. Even in our weakest hour and deepest anguish, God has a firsthand understanding of our need, and He knows just how to comfort us.

Some people endure; others survive; but-in this coming new year - God wants us to overcome!

Small Business Center Workshops in January

The East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC) has several workshops designed to help area businesses start, grow, and flourish in 2016.

To learn more about these workshops or to register, visit www.isbdc.org and click on the "Workshops and Events" link or call Judy at 765-282-9950.

The year begins with a "Launch Your Own Business" workshop from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8, at the Innovation Connector in Muncie (1208 W. White River Blvd.). This session is designed to help those interested in starting a business evaluate a business idea and take steps toward opening and succeeding in business. The workshop is also open to those who have recently started a business. The cost to attend is \$25 and includes a step-by-step workbook to go through during and after the class.

Many small business owners use QuickBooks, but there are often questions on how to use the software to simplify business process-

es. East Central ISBDC is offering 30-minute individual help sessions with a QuickBooks expert from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the following dates: Tuesday, January 12, at the Innovation Center in Richmond (814 E. Main St.) and Tuesday, Jan. 26, at the Innovation Connector in Muncie. There is no cost for these sessions.

The Banner - Henry County's Accurate News Newspaper!

Candidacy Declarations May Be Filed Starting Jan. 6

Wednesday, Jan. 6, is the first day a declaration of candidacy may be filed in the Henry County Voter Registration Office at the Henry County Justice Center for the primary election to be held May 3.

The filing deadline is 12 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 5. Hours for filing are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The following offices are up for election: county coroner, county surveyor, county commissioner (middle district), county commissioner (south district), county council member (three at-large seats), Republican precinct committeeman and delegates to the state convention.

Shirley Historical Society Announces Contest Winners

Winners of the Shirley Historical Society's annual Christmas lighting contest were announced recently.

The first place business was The Shear Shack, while second place went to Shirley Hardware.

In the residential category, Merle McRoberts brought home first place, while Melissa Gillam placed second.

The public is invited to compete in this annual contest.

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Old school ...

traditions
ring true
at Mays
Community
Academy
Christmas
program



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Hundreds packed the Mays Community Academy gymnasium Dec. 16 for the new charter school's inaugural Christmas Holiday Program, which featured holiday standards performed by students (above) from all grade levels. Angie Wilson (left), a student in Mrs. Durbin's fourth grade class, prepares to sing a solo in the song "Marshmallow World." Fog and rain blanketed the tri-county area the night of the program. But, that didn't dampen attendance, as nearly 600 people packed the MCA gymnasium. (Eric Cox photos)



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Mays Community Academy sixth graders Grace Muir (left) and Allie Yung act out parts of "Twelve Days of Christmas" to the audience's delight. Sixth grade students don reindeer antlers for their version of "Reindeer Rap." MCA music teacher Scott Wildey leans over the piano as he accompanies his students on a variety of holiday favorites. The program also featured performances by MCA teachers and singing by students in each of the school's grade levels. Among the holiday standards performed were "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," "Up on the Housetop," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" and "Jingle Bells." (Eric Cox photos)



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State Unveils New Certifications for Shovel-ready Development Sites

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) recently announced the launch of their new Indiana Site Certified (ISC) program at the Indiana Economic Development Association's (IEDA) annual conference. The program is designed to build upon what is currently known as the Indiana Shovel Ready certification, to validate sites that are ready for economic development opportunities.

The goal of the ISC program is to assist Indiana cities and towns:

- *Illustrate the communities' commitment to economic growth
- *Mitigate risks for businesses who want to locate or expand their operations in Indiana
- *Serve as a marketing tool to promote sites that are ready for development

"I applaud the working group who rose to the challenge of assessing Indiana Shovel Ready and determined ways for the program to evolve by enhancing the criteria, messaging and goals to raise the visibility of our Indiana communities who are ready for business growth and development," said Bill Konyha, OCRA executive director. "We look forward to witnessing the economic successes throughout the state resulting from the updates now known as the ISC program."

ISC recognizes three tiers of readiness: silver, gold and prime:

Silver – defines boundaries with a clear title, establishes a price, demonstrates executive level local government support, defines utility capacity and distance, and provides documentation such as Phase I environmental assessment, ALTA, topographical and property layout.

Gold – builds upon silver by requiring a minimum of 20 contiguous acres, a location no more than five miles away from a state highway, a completed geo tech study, a seismic hazard map, proper zoning, a desktop archaeological investigation, utilities be located to the property line or future build be located in public right-of-way and area be free from recognized environment concerns.

Prime – builds upon Gold by requiring 30 contiguous acres, a location no more than 2.5 miles away from a state highway, and an archaeological investigation. In addition, the LUG, LEDO or REDO must own the property or an option must be held with the owner.

The ISC program is the result of a working group made up of stakeholders who were convened by OCRA to explore opportunities for programmatic enhancement of the Indiana Shovel Ready certification and further develop ways to assist communities in best practices to market their local sites.

For more information regarding the tiers and general programmatic parameters, visit the ISC webpage.

Communities of any size may apply for the designation through OCRA. Applications for certification are accepted on a rolling basis. The first step is to contact the local OCRA community liaison who will be able to offer current program details, evaluate readiness to proceed and provide application instructions.

Recap, from Page 1

replacing incumbent Cort Swincher, whom he defeated in a Republican town convention in August; Roland collected 181 votes in his uncontested bid for a second term.

Kennard Clerk-Treasurer Resigns

The town of Kennard got a new clerk-treasurer this fall, but the change was not the result of electoral politics.

Clerk-Treasurer Karen Stanley abruptly resigned her post in late October as the Indiana State Board of Accounts and Indiana State Police investigated allegations that Stanley intentionally overpaid herself for more than two years. That investigation is still ongoing.

Stanley told The Banner in early October she had been paying herself well more than the clerk-treasurer's annual salary of \$16,500. According to a report listing yearly earnings for town employees and officials that Kennard files with the state each January, Stanley was paid \$30,125 in 2014, and the report from the year prior to that shows she was paid \$34,375 in 2013.

When The Banner asked Stanley about the discrepancy between the amounts on the annual compensation reports and her \$16,500 salary, she admitted she had been overpaying herself. She said she had been paying herself every two weeks what she should have been paid for the entire month and that the amounts on the reports, which show overpayment of \$31,500 during 2013 and 2014, were correct.

According to Stanley, her practice of overpaying herself continued into 2015 and she estimated she had overpaid herself about \$6,000 this year. However, if she was overpaying herself in the same manner as she had in 2013 and 2014, this year's overpayments could have been more than \$10,000.

Following Stanley's resignation, Sharon Elliott was appointed interim clerk-treasurer by Kennard Town Council President Jason Groce. In November, Darin Jacobs, chairman of the Henry County Democratic Party, made Elliott's appointment permanent. After finishing out the term that expires at the end of 2015, Elliott will serve a full four-year term.

Knightstown Gets New Police Chief

In what may have been one of the quickest promotions from patrol officer to department head the town of Knightstown had ever seen, the Knightstown Town Council voted unanimously in March to approve Duane Booth as the town's new chief of police.

At the time of his promotion, Booth had been a full-time patrol officer for the Knightstown Police Department for only about four months. He was one of six applicants who sought to replace Danny Baker, who had resigned in the fall of 2014 as the town council was in the process of trying to fire him.

A graduate of South Adams High School in Adams County and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, Booth left a job at Navistar in Indianapolis in the fall of 2014 when he was hired as a KPD patrol officer. He worked nine years as a part-time officer for the town of Mooreland, and had also served as a volunteer reserve officer and as a full-time officer for the town Geneva's police department. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Wayne Township, just east of the town limits, with their two sons, Brandon and Tyler.

Anthony Darling, a 19-year veteran of the Henry County Sheriff's Department and a part-time KPD officer who had been serving as Knightstown's interim chief since last December, had been considered a favorite for the chief's position in Knightstown. However, concerned about losing health insurance benefits he had through the county, Darling opted not to seek the top job with the KPD.

Former Carthage and Kennard Schools Sold

The Charles A. Beard School Board voted in September to approve the sale of the district's former elementary schools in Carthage and Kennard - both of which were closed at the end of the 2013-2014 school year - for \$14,000 and \$50,000, respectively.

Initial efforts to sell the properties for at least 90-percent of the average of two appraisals done earlier in the year, as required by state statute - \$169,785 for Carthage and \$177,120 for Kennard - were not successful. After receiving no offers during the first 60-day window for acceptance of bids, the school board voted in June to hire Harmeyer Auction & Appraisal Co. to conduct a sealed bid auction on the properties.

CAB received six bids on the Kennard property. School board members voted to accept the \$50,000 bid submitted by Pegasus Development LLC, which was the highest bid and the only one that was for the building and the approximately 13 acres on which it sits. Greensboro Township resident George King, a representative of Pegasus, told the board that the company plans to convert the former school into a "very nice" senior living complex.

The only bid received for the Carthage property was one for \$14,000 from Carthage Community Church.

While CAB Superintendent Jed Behny called the low sale prices a "tough pill to swallow," he said the school board had to keep in mind that it was costing CAB about \$2,000 a month for utilities, maintenance expenses and insurance on the two properties. With respect to insurance costs, he also noted that the deductible on the former schools was due to double,

from \$5,000 to \$10,000, in January.

Mays Community Academy Opens

Citing declining enrollment and finances, the Rush County School Board voted in March to close Mays Elementary. Opposition to the closure by a several members of the community led to the formation of the Northern Rush County School Corp., which oversees operation of the Mays Community Academy, a new public charter school serving students in kindergarten through sixth grade.

After the RCS vote to close Mays Elementary, ownership of the school building reverted to Mays Township, which is allowing NRCSC to use the building for MCA. The new charter school gets the bulk of its funding from tuition support provided by the state.

Nansi Custer, president of the NRCSC Board of Directors, told The Banner last summer that MCA hopes to keep its class sizes at 15-18 students, with the school having one class per grade for all grades except second. Due to high enrollment numbers for that grade, there were two second grade classes.

Custer said the NRCSC Board of Directors made a conscientious effort to listen both to parents and teachers when they were forming the charter school. She said teachers have been given the freedom to figure out the best way to teach state standards to students.

Custer said there has been some criticism of the charter school, with some people saying the school's formation was more about saving the building. She said that was not the case.

"It's about creating an amazing learning environment that's adaptive to the students and teachers and really give them the ability to be innovative in the classroom," Custer said.

Parents who would like more information about MCA are urged to call the school at 765-645-5577 or visit MCA's Facebook page or www.mayscommunity-academy.com.

CAB Teacher Named Teacher of the Year Finalist

Just four months after being named the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corp.'s 2015 Teacher of the Year, Knightstown Elementary School teacher Carolyn Shryock learned she had been selected as one of 10 finalists for the state's annual Teacher of the Year award.

Shryock, who is now in her eighth year teaching kindergarten, began her teaching career at CAB splitting her time as Title I kindergarten teacher between Carthage Elementary and Kennard Elementary. Then, when kindergarten became a full-day offering at CAB, she taught at Kennard only, before moving to Knightstown Elementary last year after the district closed the Kennard and Carthage schools at the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

Shryock has an undergraduate degree from Anderson University and a master's degree from the University of Indianapolis. Since the spring of 2014, she has been an adjunct professor at Anderson University, where she teaches a reading instruction course and hopes to impart the same love she has for teaching young students to read to future teachers.

"From the time I was in kindergarten, I felt called to be a teacher," Shryock told The Banner last May, when she was named CAB's Teacher of the Year. "I truly enjoy teaching and feel that it is my way to make a difference in the world. I am grateful to CAB for this tremendous honor, and I am thankful for the parents in this community who entrust their children to me each day."

Former HYCA Director Fired, Settles Termination Dispute

The director of the Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy, a program for troubled teens located at the former Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home just south of Knightstown, was fired from her position in May, then, after challenging her termination, reached a settlement with the state this fall.

Knightstown resident Bethany Williams was abruptly fired as the HYCA's director on May 1 after a little over a year on the job. According to a memo issued by former Adjutant General R. Martin Umbarger, whose own resignation took effect at the end of May, Williams was let go for "unprofessional and inappropriate behavior" that didn't "meet agency standards."

In a challenge to her firing, Williams said she believed she was let go, in part, because she had complained about the behavior of other HYCA employees. She also said she thought HYCA staff she had disciplined had retaliated by filing an anonymous complaint against her that she believed may have been used to justify her termination. She also alleged that she may have been discriminated against on the basis of both her religion and gender.

After two earlier challenges to her firing were unsuccessful, Williams filed a petition with the State Employees' Appeals Commission. She and the state reached a settlement, and, in late October, Williams' case was dismissed.

According to terms of the settlement, Williams' termination was converted into a "resignation in good standing, coding her as eligible for rehire" with the state. The settlement also required Williams, whose salary at the time of her termination was \$71,656, to be paid for accrued leave time she had not used at the

See Recap, Page 11

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LOCAL SPORTS

KHS Baseball Coach Daren Hardesty Named District Coach of the Year

Knightstown High School varsity baseball coach Daren Hardesty has been selected by the Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association as District Coach of the Year, representing District H. Hardesty will be recognized at the organization's Hall of Fame Awards Banquet in Indianapolis Jan. 22.

According to a letter informing the school of this recognition, Hardesty was selected by votes from his peers "for his outstanding success during the 2015 high school baseball season."

Hardesty has had quite an impressive run in just two seasons as Knightstown's head baseball coach. In his first year, he led the Panthers to their first sectional title in 33 years. The team then advanced to the regional championship game where their season ended at 23-8.

The 2015 season was even more exciting with the Panthers going 28-4, winning their second straight sectional title and then their first regional title since 1967. The Panthers traveled to

Jasper for the semistate tourney where their season ended against the eventual state 2A champion South Spencer. Hardesty's Panthers also won the Henry County Tournament title in 2014 and 2015.

Hardesty was also named baseball Coach of the Year by the Mid-Hoosier Conference in each of the past two seasons. The Panthers are undefeated at 18-0 in the MHC since Hardesty took over.

On top of Hardesty's other accomplishments, he's also the proud coach of two college-bound players. Jake Kwisz, one of the Panthers' top pitchers in the 2014 and 2015 seasons and a player on the Indiana 2015 North/South All-Star team, recently committed to play baseball at Indiana-Purdue South Bend this season. Drake Peggs, the Panthers' star shortstop and top hitter the past two seasons, signed to play at Eastern Michigan University last month. Peggs has one more season as a Panther.



Royal Wrestlers 5-0 at Cambridge City Invite

Eastern Hancock's varsity wrestling team defeated all five of the other teams at the Cambridge City Invitational on Dec. 5.

The only close match for the Royals was against Centerville with EH edging out the Bulldogs by just one point, 36-35.

Winning their matches by pin against the Bulldogs were Austin Henderson (126-lbs.), Gabe Blake (138-lbs.), Brandon Francis (160-lbs.), Wes Myers (220-lbs.) and Josh Robinson (285-lbs.).

Jared Waterman (152-lbs.) and Dakota Myers (182-lbs.) each won their matches by decision.

Devyn Brinson (170-lbs.) and Colby Hunt (195-lbs.) lost their matches to the Bulldogs by decision. Jordyn Wills (132-lbs.) lost his Bulldog matchup by technical fall.

Jack Smith (113-lbs.), Caleb Giddings (120-lbs.) and Jayson Bowers (145-lbs.) lost their matches by decision against Centerville.

The Royals then shut out the host school 75-0.

Defeated their Cambridge City Lincoln opponents by pin were nine EH wrestlers including Giddings, Wills, Blake, Bowers, Waterman, Francis, Dakota Myers, Wes Myers and Robinson.

Henderson won his match against by decision.

Three Royal wrestlers - Smith, Brinson and Hunt - won by their matches against the Golden

Eagles by forfeit.

Eastern Hancock then whipped Blue River Valley 78-3 with Wills, Blake, Dakota Myers and Wes Myers all winning by pin.

Eight Royal wrestlers won by forfeit including Smith, Giddings, Henderson, Waterman, Francis, Brinson, Hunt and Robinson. Bowers lost by decision to his Vikings opponent.

Daleville also struggled against the Royals, who topped the Broncos 66-10.

Six Royals won by pin against Daleville including Giddings, Blake, Bowers, Francis, Brinson and Robinson.

Five Royals won by forfeit in the Daleville match including Smith, Henderson, Wills, Waterman and Hunt.

Wes Myers lost his Broncos match by major decision while Dakota Myers was defeated by pin.

Eastern Hancock toppled the Indiana School for the Deaf 66-9.

Winning by pin for the Royals were Giddings, Wills, Waterman, Dakota Myers, Wes Myers and Robinson.

Henderson, Blake, Francis, Brinson and Hunt each won by forfeit.

Smith lost by regular decision and Bowers fell by pin against Deaf School.

Varsity Lady Titans Drop to 10-5 After 3 Losses

Tri's varsity girls basketball team had a tough week recently, falling to Union County 46-54 on Dec. 16, to Hagerstown 38-43 on Dec. 19 and, on Dec. 22, to Union City 48-54.

The losses dropped Tri's season record to 10-5.

Tri	5	12	10	19	-	46
Union Co.	11	19	5	19	-	54

Tri Individual Stats vs. Union County

Kylie Dishman - 15 points (three 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals
 Payton Moore - 8 points, 2 rebounds, 4 steals, 1 block
 Mackenzie Peggs - 7 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 block
 Karlee Winkhart - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal
 Addy Edwards - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 3 assists
 Cayla Johnson - 4 points, 3

rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block, 1 charge taken

Mara Biehl - 2 rebounds, 1 assist

Kennington Appleby - 3 assists

Tri	11	10	9	8	-	38
Hagerstown	9	9	18	7	-	43

Tri Individual Stats vs. Hagerstown

Payton Moore - 15 points, 7 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 blocks
 Mackenzie Peggs - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
 Addy Edwards - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal
 Kylie Dishman - 5 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal
 Cayla Johnson - 2 points, 3 assists, 1 steal, 2 blocks
 Kennington Appleby - 2 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists
 Karlee Winkhart - 2 points

Mara Biehl - 1 rebound, 1 assist

Tri	7	10	17	14	-	48
Union City	10	13	13	18	-	54

Tri Individual Stats vs. Union City

Payton Moore - 16 points, 11 rebounds, 2 assists, 4 steals
 Kylie Dishman - 9 points (two 3-pointers), 1 rebound, 3 assists, 6 steals
 Addy Edwards - 8 points (two 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 1 assist
 Mackenzie Peggs - 8 points, 2 rebounds, 4 assists
 Cayla Johnson - 4 points, 2 rebounds
 Karlee Winkhart - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 1 assist
 Kennington Appleby - 1 rebound, 3 steals
 Mara Biehl - 1 steal

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Recap, from Page 10

time of her firing last spring - 97.5 hours of vacation leave that amounted to \$3,582.15 before the deduction of payroll withholdings and taxes.

Town of Knightstown Sued

Almost two years after the town of Knightstown had a dilapidated commercial building on East Main Street razed, the owner of a neighboring building sued the town and the Muncie-based company that handled the demolition.

Dudley Wainscott of Woodland Park, Colo., owner of the property known as the "Old Lodge" building at 34-38 E. Main St., filed his lawsuit against the town in February. Also named as a defendant is Shroyer Bros. Inc., who the town hired to demolish the building that stood just to the west of Wainscott's and had formerly housed Hopkins Furniture and, more recently, The Bullet Hole gun shop.

Wainscott's lawsuit alleges missteps in how the town and Shroyer handled the spring 2013 demolition of the building at 32 E. Main St. He also claims the town failed to make repairs to a common wall the razed building shared with his property that has been left standing, and says that failure led to mold damage in his building.

A mediation conference held earlier this month failed to produce a settlement between the parties. A hearing is set for Jan. 20 on a motion for summary judgment filed by the town that, if granted, could result in a dismissal of Wainscott's lawsuit. Should the town's motion for summary judgment be denied, the case would then proceed to trial sometime in 2017.

Prohibition Nearly Comes to Knightstown

In an effort to undo the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board's decision to lift the ban on alcohol in the Sunset Park

shelter house, the Knightstown Town Council adopted an ordinance this fall banning open containers of alcohol on all town-owned property.

The park board voted in July to lift the shelter house's alcohol ban, a move that prompted criticism from a handful of citizens. In an effort to nullify the park board's decision, the town council voted in August to direct the town's attorney to draft an ordinance that would ban alcohol on all town-owned property.

Town council members approved the ordinance on first reading at their Sept. 17 monthly meeting. However, after The Banner questioned whether the ordinance would ban transportation of lawfully purchased alcohol in vehicles traveling on town streets - the town attorney conceded that would "potentially" be a violation - the council delayed a second vote adopting the ordinance. The town's attorney offered to amend the ordinance so that it only applies to "open containers" of alcohol and said he would bring a revised ordinance to the council's next meeting for a vote of adoption.

With two members absent, the town council voted 3-0 at its October meeting to adopt the revised ordinance on second reading. The ordinance makes it illegal to possess or use "opened containers of beer, ale, wine or any other alcoholic beverage of any type or nature or any drugs, scheduled substances under the Indiana Criminal Code, or any paraphernalia for the utilization of such substances or drugs ... within or upon any streets, alleyways, rights of way, and real estate, including any improvements located thereon" that are owned by the town. The ordinance, as adopted, makes no exceptions for drugs possessed with valid prescriptions.

Knightstown Park Board Faces Leadership Changes

It was a tumultuous year for the Knightstown Parks and Recreation Board, with two resignations and three different members serving as the body's president.

President Randy Riggs, appointed to the park board in January 2014, resigned in March. The Knightstown Town Council appointed Ashley Lapham to fill the vacancy on the board created by Riggs' resignation.

The park board's remaining members did not select a new president until June, when they voted to appoint Belinda Grigsby to lead the board. Grigsby, who had just been appointed to the board at the beginning of 2015, only lasted in this position about three months before she, too, stepped down.

Grigsby abruptly resigned from the park board at the Knightstown Town Council's Sept. 17 meeting. She claimed she had been verbally abused and disrespected by another member of the board, whom she did not name at the council meeting. Grigsby had previously told The Banner this person was Bruce Brown, the park board's vice president.

Brown denied Grigsby's allegations, and, in October, he was chosen to serve as the park board's president for the remainder of 2015. While state statute requires the park board to have a vice president, no one was selected to fill that position after Brown's promotion to president.

Though she was no longer on the board, Grigsby filed a formal complaint with the Knightstown Town Council in an attempt to get Brown removed from the park board. Following a public hearing at the council's Dec. 17 monthly meeting, the town council voted unanimously to deny Grigsby's request that Brown be taken off the park board.

LOCAL SPORTS

Panthers Beat Royals 70-64 in Varsity Game

Knightsdown and Eastern Hancock varsity boys basketball teams faced off for their annual rivalry game Dec. 18, this year at Eastern Hancock.

Both squads got off to a good start, ending the first quarter with the Panthers up 19-14.

The Royals hit a slump in the second quarter allowing the Panthers to head to the locker room with a 13-point lead, 34-21.

Knightsdown kept up its steady offense in the third, dropping in another 19 points, but the half-time break gave the Royals the boost they were looking for. Eastern Hancock was on fire in the third quarter, scoring 28 points to bring their deficit to just four points, 49-53.

The Panthers remained consistent in the fourth quarter to hold on for a six-point win, 70-64.

The two rivals shot about the same number of field goals but Knightsdown simply hit more. The Panthers were 14 of 20 for 70% in two-point shoot-

ing while the Royals shot 48% (10-for-21).

Where the Royals lacked in regular field goal shooting, they more than made up in 3-pointers.

Though both teams shot 45% from behind the arc, the Royals knocked down five more threes. Eastern Hancock was 14-for-31 in 3-point shooting while the Panthers were 9-for-20.

The real difference maker was at the free throw line. Knightsdown was 13 of 16 at the charity stripe while Eastern Hancock only made it to the free throw line three times, with A.J. Muegge hitting two of those.

The Panthers won the battle of the boards with 20 rebounds to the Royals' 16. KHS had just three turnovers while EH committed eight.

The win improved Knightsdown's record to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

The loss dropped Eastern Hancock's record to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in the conference.

Knightsdown	19	15	19	17	-	70
Eastern Hancock	14	7	28	15	-	64

Knightsdown Individual Results

Jackson Edwards - 22 points (three 3-pointers), 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 1 block
 Dylan Hiner - 14 points (two 3-pointers), 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 2 blocks
 Coleman Wyatt - 12 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 block
 Drake Peggs - 11 points (three 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 6 assists, 1 steal
 Riley Ruble - 6 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 block
 Jake Bearhope - 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 steal
 Daniel Rayburn - 1 assist

Eastern Hancock Individual Results

A.J. Muegge - 20 points (two 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 3 assists
 Ryan Speas - 15 points (five 3-pointers), 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected
 Tom Barton - 12 points (two 3-pointers), 6 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 shot deflected
 Addison True - 8 points (two 3-pointers), 5 rebounds, 6 assists, 2 steals, 4 shots deflected
 Tyler Blattner - 6 points (two 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 1 shot deflected
 Duncan Cherry - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected
 Jacob Eischen - 1 rebound, 1 assist

Tri Varsity Boys Now 2-5

Tri varsity boys basketball team moved to 2-5 on the season after action the first three weeks of December.

The Titans fell 59-70 to Blue River Valley on the road Dec. 4 and to Shenandoah 53-79 at home on Dec. 11.

Tri got their first win of the season in a big way, toppling Union (Modoc) by 31 points, 64-33, at home Dec. 12.

They fell to Cowan 62-80 on the road Dec. 18 followed by a their second season win - and first conference victory - over Union City 60-55 at home Dec. 19.

Tri	12	14	16	17	-	59
Blue River	11	22	14	23	-	70

Tri Individual Results vs. BRV

David O'Neill - 16 points (four 3-pointers), 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals
 Carson Cox - 14 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists
 Alex Melton - 10 points, 9 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
 Masen Phelps - 9 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 block
 Nick Wilson - 6 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals
 Austin Stroud - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Deven Jones - 1 steal

Shenandoah	22	19	19	19	-	79
Tri	13	7	17	17	-	53

Tri Individual Results vs. Shen.

Kaleb Harrison - 13 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Alex Melton - 11 points (two 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 1 assist
 Carson Cox - 10 points, 5 rebounds
 Masen Phelps - 8 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 blocks
 Nick Wilson - 4 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
 Austin Stroud - 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 block
 Seth Butler - 2 points, 3 rebounds
 Gage Rowe - 2 points, 1 steal
 David O'Neill - 1 point, 6 rebounds, 1 assist
 Elijah Davis - 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 block

rebounds, 5 steals
 Morgan Collins - 3 points, 6 rebounds, 1 steal
 Jenna Smith - 2 points, 6 rebounds, 2 blocks
 Liberty Durham - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 1 block
 Madison Clutinger - 3 rebounds
 Megan Bever - 2 rebounds, 1 steal

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Results Updated for Girls Eastern Hancock-North Decatur Game

Eastern Hancock varsity girls basketball team's 27-57 over North Decatur Dec. 8 was reported in last week's issue, but expanded results were not available at that time.

N. Decatur	16	14	14	13	-	57
E. Hancock	4	11	4	8	-	27

E. Hancock Individual Results

Haley Best - 7 points (two 3-pointers)
 Emiley Carlton - 4 points, 6 rebounds, 1 block
 Hope Spaulding - 4 points
 Bailey Allen - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 1 assist

Megan Mench - 3 points (one 3-pointer)
 Jenna Smith - 2 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 1 shot deflected
 Peyton West - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Leah Ferguson - 2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 blocks
 Kaysi Gilbert - 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected
 Micah Black - 3 rebounds, 1 steal
 Liberty Durham - 1 rebound, 1 assist
 Shelby King - 1 shot deflected

E. Hancock JV Girls Get Two More Wins

Eastern Hancock junior varsity girls basketball team beat conference school North Decatur 35-25 at home Dec. 8 then squeezed past Lapel 34-29 on the road Dec. 15.

These two wins, along with the Lady Royals defeat of Knightsdown on Dec. 17, bumped EH's record up to 9-1 overall and 3-1 in conference play.

N. Decatur JV	5	13	2	5	-	25
E. Hancock JV	9	7	9	10	-	35

EH JV Individual Results vs N.D.

Faith Webster - 10 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals
 Morgan Collins - 7 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block
 Jenna Smith - 6 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals
 Micah Black - 5 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 blocks
 Kayla Fancher - 5 points
 Bailey Allen - 4 points
 Liberty Durham - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals
 Madison Clutinger - 2 points, 2 rebounds

E. Hancock JV	9	5	6	14	-	34
Lapel JV	4	8	12	5	-	29

EH JV Individual Results vs Lapel

Bailey Allen - 14 points (four 3-pointers)
 Micah Black - 7 points, 1 rebound, 2 steals
 Faith Webster - 6 points, 4

Union	5	2	9	17	-	33
Tri	12	20	12	20	-	64

Tri Individual Results vs. Union

Carson Cox - 15 points, 3 rebounds
 Kaleb Harrison - 10 points (two 3-pointers), 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals
 Alex Melton - 9 points, 10 rebounds, 2 assists
 Masen Phelps - 7 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal
 Nick Wilson - 6 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals
 Austin Stroud - 4 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal
 David O'Neill - 4 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block
 Gage Rowe - 4 points, 1 rebound
 Seth Butler - 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 blocks
 Elijah Davis - 2 points, 4 rebounds
 Kyler Burchett - 2 rebounds, 1 assist
 Deven Jones - 1 steal

Tri	16	15	11	20	-	62
Cowan	23	19	17	21	-	80

Tri Individual Results vs. Cowan

Masen Phelps - 16 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 4 blocks
 Carson Cox - 14 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists
 Alex Melton - 13 points, 11 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 block
 Kaleb Harrison - 8 points (two 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals
 David O'Neill - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds
 Nick Wilson - 2 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists
 Austin Stroud - 1 point, 2 rebounds
 Gage Rowe - 1 point
 Elijah Davis - 1 rebound
 Eric Bilby - 1 assist

Union City	15	20	2	18	-	55
Tri	7	17	12	24	-	60

Tri Individual Results vs. Union City

Carson Cox - 23 points, 4 rebounds
 David O'Neill - 15 points (four 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 2 assists
 Nick Wilson - 10 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 2 assists, 4 steals
 Masen Phelps - 4 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists
 Kaleb Harrison - 4 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals
 Austin Stroud - 2 points, 3 rebounds
 Eric Bilby - 2 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists
 Alex Melton - 3 rebounds, 1 steal
 Elijah Davis - 1 rebound



EH Youth Baseball Meeting Scheduled

Eastern Hancock Youth League baseball is holding a call-out meeting Jan. 5 for volunteers to help with the league.

Positions available include head coaches, assistant coaches, umpires, concessions and others.

Persons interested in helping should plan to attend the meeting at the high school cafeteria.

LOCAL SPORTS

Lady Royals Top Lady Panthers By 30

Eastern Hancock's varsity girls basketball team started off on fire in the annual rivalry game against Knightstown at home Dec. 18.

The Lady Royals outscored the Lady Panthers 23-6 in the opening period and built up their lead to 43-19 by halftime.

Knightstown's Brooke Vise had another double-double, leading her team with 18 points and 11 rebounds. But, her effort was not enough to make a dent in the Lady Royals' scoring performance. EH went on to win the conference game 74-44.

Freshman Haley Best hit five 3-pointers and scored 17 points while Kaysi Gilbert contributed 15 points to lead the Lady Royals.

The win pushed EH's record to 9-3 overall and 2-2 in the Mid-Hoosier Conference.

The Lady Panthers fell to 1-10 overall and 0-6 in the conference.

Howe Pulls Out Victory in Overtime Against KHS

Knightstown varsity boys basketball team rallied in the fourth quarter to send their game into overtime against Indianapolis Howe Dec. 19 at home.

But, it was basically all Howe in the overtime period with the Hornets outscoring the Panthers 16-9 to get the 79-71 win.

Four Panthers, all seniors, scored in double digits, led by Jackson Edwards with 26 points. Coleman Wyatt had 12 points, Drake Peggs scored 11 and Riley Ruble had 10.

Indpls Howe	20	13	15	15	16(OT)	- 55
Eastern Hancock	11	13	16	23	9(OT)	- 60

Knightstown Individual Results

Jackson Edwards - 26 points (two 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 9 assists, 2 steals

Coleman Wyatt - 12 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist

Drake Peggs - 11 points (three 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal

Riley Ruble - 10 points (two 3-pointers), 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 2 blocks

Dylan Hiner - 9 points (three 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal

Jake Bearhope - 4 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals

Knightstown	6	13	15	10	- 44
E. Hancock	23	20	19	12	- 74

E. Hancock Individual Results

Haley Best - 17 points (five 3-pointers), 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal

Kaysi Gilbert - 15 points (one 3-pointer), 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, 1 shot deflected

Jenna Smith - 8 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 block

Peyton West - 6 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals

Shelby King - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 1 assist, 3 steals, 1 shot deflected

Micah Black - 3 points, 1 block

Hope Spaulding - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 2 shots deflected

Liberty Durham - 2 points, 1 assist

Morgan Collins - 2 rebounds

Knightstown Individual Results

Brooke Vise - 18 points, 11 rebounds, 2 steals, 2 blocks, 1 shot deflected

Lori Thomas - 8 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound

Hannah Thomas - 6 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 shot deflected

Lacy Thomas - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 2 assists

Jordan Ventresco - 4 points, 4 assists, 1 steal

Dharma Holder - 2 points

Rachel Dickerson - 1 point, 2 rebounds

Sidney Vise - 2 rebounds, 1 assist

Carmen Cleek - 1 assist, 1 steal, 2 shots deflected

KHS Varsity Girls Fall to Waldron

Knightstown varsity girls basketball team suffered their eleventh straight loss this season at Waldron Dec. 22, falling 44-51.

Senior Brooke Vise had her third straight double-double and her fifth of the season. Vise had 13 points and 14 rebounds to lead the Lady Panthers.

Knightstown	12	5	8	19	- 44
Waldron	9	18	11	13	- 51

Knightstown Individual Results

Brooke Vise - 13 points, 14 rebounds, 3 blocks

Lacy Thomas - 11 points (two 3-pointers), 2 rebounds, 1 steal

Jordan Ventresco - 7 points, 2 rebounds, 1 shot deflected

Lori Thomas - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 1 assist, 1 shot deflected

Rachel Dickerson - 4 points, 1 steal

Hannah Thomas - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 3 shots deflected

Carmen Cleek - 2 points, 1 steal, 4 shots deflected

Royal Wrestlers Thump Triton Central, 63-15

Eastern Hancock's varsity wrestlers beat Triton Central 63-15 on the road Dec. 8.

Six Royals were 1-0, winning their matches by pin. They included Austin Henderson (126-lbs.), Jayson Bowers (145-lbs.), Dakota Myers (182-lbs.), Colby Hunt (195-lbs.), Wesley Myers (220-lbs.) and Josh Robinson (285-lbs.).

Jack Smith (113-lbs.), Jordyn Wills (132-lbs.), Gabe Blake (138-lbs.) and Brandon Francis (160-lbs.) all won their matches by forfeit.

Jared Waterman (152-lbs.) was also 1-0 with a win by a regular decision.

Devyn Brinson (170-lbs.) lost by regular decision while Caleb Giddings (120-lbs.) was defeated by pin.

The win over Triton Central moved the Royals' record to 11-1.

EH Varsity Girls Beat Lapel, Lincoln

The varsity Lady Royals added to more wins to their season record with a 58-57 victory over Lapel Dec. 15 and clobbering of Cambridge City Lincoln, 69-41, on Dec. 22.

Again, freshman Haley Best led the Royal scoring effort with 17 points against Lapel and 14 against Lincoln. She hit four 3-pointers in each game.

Following these wins and the win over Knightstown, the Royals' record moved to 10-3 overall and 2-2 in the conference.

E. Hancock	14	9	17	17	- 57
Lapel	14	11	13	20	- 58

EH Individual Results vs. Lapel

Haley Best - 17 points (four 3-pointers), 1 rebound, 4 assists, 2 steals

Emiley Carlton - 12 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals

Kaysi Gilbert - 9 points (one 3-pointer), 4 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Jenna Smith - 5 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals

Leah Ferguson - 5 points, 3

rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Peyton West - 5 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist

Shelby King - 4 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assist, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Hope Spaulding - 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals

Lincoln	5	16	9	11	- 41
E. Hancock	16	21	16	16	- 69

EH Individual Results vs. Lincoln

Haley Best - 14 points (four 3-pointers), 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal

Hope Spaulding - 10 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 shot deflected

Kaysi Gilbert - 10 points, 2 rebounds, 4 steals, 1 shot deflected

Emiley Carlton - 10 points (one 3-pointer), 1 rebound, 1 steal, 3 shots deflected

Shelby King - 9 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 6 rebounds, 2 shots deflected

Leah Ferguson - 8 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Area High School Sports Schedule for Dec. 30-Jan. 6

Boys Basketball - Varsity /JV

- ◆ Dec. 30 - Tri away at Wes-Del, 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Jan. 2 - Eastern Hancock away at North Decatur, 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Jan. 4 - Knightstown at home vs. Indiana Math & Science Academy West, 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball - C Team

- ◆ Jan. 5 - Knightstown at Blue River Valley, 6 p.m.
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Knightstown at Shenandoah, 6 p.m.
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Eastern Hancock away at Cambridge City Lincoln, 6 p.m.

Girls Basketball - Varsity/JV

- ◆ Jan. 2 - Knightstown at home for Lady Panther Invitational, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Jan. 5 - Eastern Hancock at home vs. Southwestern Shelby, 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Wrestling

- ◆ Dec. 30 - Tri away at Morrisville Invitational, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Jan. 2 - Knightstown away at Indiana State Duals, Fort Wayne Coliseum, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Knightstown at home for Henry County Tourney, Knightstown High School, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Tri away at Henry County Tourney, Knightstown High School, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Knightstown (junior varsity only) away at Muncie Central Duals, 5 p.m.

Swimming- Coed

- ◆ Jan. 5 - Eastern Hancock co-ed away at Indian Creek for 4-way meet also with Cardinal Ritter and Seccina, 9 a.m.

JV Lady Royals Beat JV Lady Panthers

Eastern Hancock junior varsity girls doubled their offensive effort in the second half of their annual rivalry game with Knightstown Dec. 17 to secure a 32-21 win.

EH - JV	3	6	11	12	- 32
KHS - JV	4	5	8	6	- 21

E. Hancock JV Individual Results

Micah Black - 7 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block

Liberty Durham - 7 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 2 steals, 2 blocks

Morgan Collins - 6 points (one 3-pointer), 5 rebounds, 2 steals, 1

block

Jenna Smith - 6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steals, 3 blocks

Faithe Webster - 4 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal, 1 shot deflected

Megan Bever - 2 points, 1 steal

Bailey Allen - 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal

Kayla Fancher - 1 steal

Peyton West - 3 points, 3 rebounds, 5 assists, 3 steals

Jenna Smith - 3 points, 1 rebound, 1 block, 2 shots deflected

Liberty Durham - 2 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist

Morgan Collins - 1 rebound

Bailey Allen - 1 rebound

Micah Black - 1 rebound

block

K-town JV Individual Results

Kaitlyn Jackson - 7 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist, 7 steals

Jessica Butler - 6 points, 6 rebounds, 1 shot deflected

Makeena Leisure - 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist

Sidney Vise - 2 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist

Dharma Holder - 2 points, 2 rebounds

Elizabeth Moore - 3 rebounds, 2 steals, 2 shots deflected

Maggie Smith - 1 rebound, 1 steal, 2 shots deflected

Allyson Hauk - 1 point

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EH Boys JV Beats KHS JV

Eastern Hancock junior varsity boys basketball team came out with the 44-28 victory over rival Knightstown Dec. 17.

Individual results for Knightstown were not yet available.

E. Hancock JV	9	14	10	11	- 44
Knightstown JV	5	4	11	8	- 28

Eastern Hancock JV Individual Results

Brycen Napier - 23 points (two 3-pointers), 8 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, 4 shots deflected

Trey Bittinger - 7 points (one 3-pointer), 2 rebounds

Jake Hancock - 6 points, 9 rebounds, 1 assist

Tyler Castle - 5 points (one 3-pointer), 2 assists, 2 steals, 3 shots deflected

Skyler Schrope - 3 points (one 3-pointer), 3 rebounds, 2 shots deflected

Peyton Gray - 6 rebounds, 2 assist, 1 shot deflected

Luke Splater - 1 assist, 1 shot deflected

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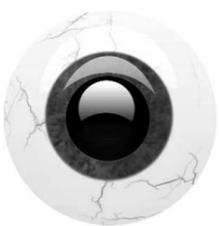
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Eastern Hancock C-Team 1-1 at Lutheran Tourney

Eastern Hancock boys C-team fell 20-30 to the host school in the first game of the Indianapolis Lutheran Tourney Dec. 5.

Brady Stephens led the Royals' scoring with seven points, including one 3-pointer.

Ian White hit two 3-pointers and Cameron Denis also sunk a three in his five points. Dakota Stanley added two points.

The C-team Royals faired bet-

ter in their other tourney game against conference foe Hauser. Eastern Hancock defeated the Jets 42-33.

K.C. Smoak led the Royals with 15 points.

Stanley got eight points. Nick Pelger had six points. White and Jason Apple each had four points.

Juddson Bevans hit one 3-pointer and Denis added two points to the Royals' total.

Wes-Del Squeezes By Eastern Hancock C-Team

The boys C-team were edged out 28-30 by Wes-Del on the road Dec. 9.

Ian White scored nine points, including two 3-pointers, and had one assist.

Brady Stephens hit two 3-pointers and had eight points, five rebounds and one assist.

K.C. Smoak got four points and four rebounds.

Dakota Stanley grabbed five rebounds and scored two points.

Nick Pelger had two points, one rebound and one assist.

Juddson Bevans scored two points and had one rebound and one steal.

Cameron Denis hit a free throw and grabbed two rebounds, one assist and one steal.

Jason Apple pulled down five rebounds, dished out four assists and stole the ball five times.

Following the loss, the C-team's record dropped to 1-5.

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